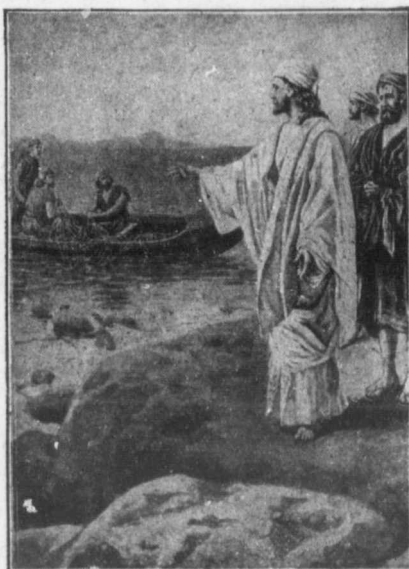


Lesson II.

JESUS BEGINS HIS WORK

January 13, 1918

Mark 1 : 12-20. *Scripture Memory Verses, 1 Sam. 3 : 2, 3.

Golden Text—Repent ye, and believe in the gospel.—Mark 1 : 15 (Rev. Ver.).

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12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.

13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Sa'tan ; and was with the wild beasts ; and the angels ministered unto him.

14 Now after that John was put in prison, Je'sus came into Gal'ilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand : repent ye, and believe the gospel.

16 Now as he walked by the sea of Gal'ilee, he saw Si'mon and An'drew his brother casting a net into the sea : for they were fishers.

17 And Je'sus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

18 And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.

19 And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zeb'edee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets.

20 And straightway he called them : and they left their father Zeb'edee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

How nice it would be if we could have a lot of stories telling us about Jesus when he was a boy,—how he played and worked and studied. But the Bible does not tell us very much about that part of Jesus' life. We only know that he was a pure and holy child and grew up a pure and holy man.

Satan, you know, is the wicked spirit who causes all the sin that is in the world. He thought he could tempt Jesus to be sinful too. God wanted to show Satan and everybody in the world that Jesus could not be tempted to do wrong, so God planned a way to do this. Not long after Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan River, God sent him away out into a wild part of the country which was called "the wilderness." There Jesus lived alone for forty days, and angels served him and watched over him. Wild beasts roamed

around amongst the rocks and trees, but they did not harm Jesus.

"Now," thought Satan, "this is my chance to get this holy man Jesus to obey me instead of God." So Satan followed Jesus to the wilderness and tempted him to disobey God, by promising to give him everything in the world if he would only fall down and worship and serve him. Jesus would not listen to Satan at all. He turned his back upon him and said : "Get thee behind me, Satan. I'll have nothing to do with you." And that is just what Jesus wants you boys and girls to say when Satan tempts you to do wrong.

So Jesus was made ready for his work. He overcame Satan, and so became able to help other people to overcome him, too. We know now what a pure, holy Jesus it was who went about teaching people to be good.

* For correct recitation of any one year's Part of the Scripture Memory Passages of List II., at one sitting, a Card Certificate will be given, to be exchanged for Certificate in Colors when the three yearly Parts have been completed. The Card, with sample copy of List of Passages, may be had free of charge from Rev. J. C. Robertson, our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.